

Serial No. 10/538,153
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Amendments To The Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1 - 13 (canceled)

14 - 15 (canceled)

16. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 15, A method for monitoring a control unit of an internal combustion engine, comprising:~~

monitoring a variable that characterizes the output of a lambda regulating system for a deviation from a predefined reference value; and

detecting an error by a control element determining the air mass in the cylinder as a function of the deviation that has been determined,

wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of a lambda regulation system is the output parameter, and

wherein the deviation of the value of the output parameter is compared with a predefined desired value of the output parameter, the deviation is summed, and an error is detected if the summed deviation exceeds a predefined threshold value and an error signal is generated by the control unit, the error signal used to help monitor the control element.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein that from the amount of the deviation, a further threshold value is deducted and this corrected deviation is summed in the case where the other threshold value is determined as a function of a load variable of the internal combustion engine.

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18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the load variable is the torque of the internal combustion engine and the rotational speed.

19. (currently amended) The method according to claim 14 16, wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of the lambda regulation system depends on the derivation in time of the output parameter of the lambda regulation system.

20. (currently amended) The method according to claim 14 16, wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of the lambda regulation system is a value of an air mass flow determined from the injection parameters in the cylinders of the internal combustion engine.

21. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 20, A method for monitoring a control unit of an internal combustion engine, comprising:~~

monitoring a variable that characterizes the output of a lambda regulating system for a deviation from a predefined reference value; and

detecting an error by a control element determining the air mass in the cylinder as a function of the deviation that has been determined,

wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of a lambda regulation system is the output parameter,

wherein the deviation of the value of the output parameter is compared with a predefined desired value of the output parameter, the deviation is summed, and an error is detected if the summed deviation exceeds a predefined threshold value and an error signal is generated by the control unit and the error signal is used to monitor the control element,

wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of the lambda regulation system is a value of an air mass flow determined from the injection parameters in the cylinders of the internal combustion engine, and

wherein the value of the air mass flow determined from the injection parameters is determined as a function of a start of injection and an end of injection signal that are generated by the control unit.

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22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the deviation of the value of the air mass flow determined from the injection parameters is compared with an actual value of the air mass flow, the deviation is summed, and an error is detected if the summed deviation exceeds a predefined threshold value.

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein a further threshold value is deducted from the amount of the deviation and this corrected deviation is then summed in the case the other threshold value is determined as a function of at least one of the load variables of the internal combustion engine.

24. (previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the load variable is both the torque of the internal combustion engine and the rotational speed.

25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 14 16, wherein the variable that characterizes the output parameter of the lambda regulation system depends on a value of an air mass flow determined from the injection parameters in the cylinders of the internal combustion engine.

26. (currently amended) A device for monitoring a control unit for an internal combustion engine, comprising:

a plurality of sensors that generate measured variables, wherein the variables characterize an output parameter of a lambda regulation system; and

a monitoring unit that accesses the measured variables a variable according to the monitoring unit that characterizes an output parameter of a lambda regulation system and is monitored monitors the variables for a deviation from a predefined threshold value and detects an error is detected by of a control element that determining determines the air mass in the a cylinder of the engine as a function of the deviation that has been determined,

wherein the deviation of the value of the output parameter is compared with a predefined desired value of the output parameter, the deviation is summed, an error is detected if the summed deviation exceeds a predefined threshold value and an error signal is generated by the control unit to help monitor the control element.